

THE COMET.
ROBT. L. TAYLOR,
C. J. ST. JOHN, Jr., Editors.
Johnson City, Tenn., July 19, 1884.
DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

The Great Reformer

(AND)
The Wronged Man of '76

FOR PRESIDENT,
GROVER CLEVELAND,
OF NEW YORK.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT,
Thos. A. Hendricks,
OF INDIANA.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS,
ROBERT L. TAYLOR,
J. D. C. ATKINS.

DISTRICT ELECTORS.
1st. ROBERT BURROW.
2d. S. G. HEISKELL.
4th. M. S. ELKIN.
6th. J. W. JUDD.
7th. L. P. PADGET.
8th. R. P. COLE.
10th. J. HARVEY MATHES.

FOR GOVERNOR:
WILLIAM B. BATE.
OF DAVIDSON.

FOR RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS,
JOHN H. SAVAGE, of Warren.
G. W. GORDON, of Shelby.
J. A. TURLEY, of McMinn.

Washington County Ticket.
FOR SHERIFF:
EDWARD H. HARR.

FOR TRUSTEE:
J. C. ROBERTSON.

Blaine's Apology.
The style of Blaine's letter, accepting the nomination of the Republican party, is better than the style in which such letters are ordinarily written.

Blaine's knowledge of grammar and rhetoric may make up for the deficiencies of Logan in these branches of education.

It is well that the style of this letter is good; for there is in the subject matter, with the exception of some few statements, little worthy of its distinguished author. Its length seems to admit the inefficiency of the Republican platform. Beginning his letter by expressing a deep sense of the honor conferred upon him, Blaine restates nearly all the matter in the Republican Platform, and concludes with some remarks upon the sacredness of the ballot and with an expression of regret that the Republican party has failed to provide for the country a respectable navy.

He discusses the tariff question at length, and attempts to prove the advantages of protection by showing how much richer the country is now than it was before the war. By the prominence he gives to the tariff question, he evidently means to make that the leading issue in the campaign. Though the tariff question is not to be overlooked in the coming campaign, there is a question to be considered which concerns the country ever more than "revenue only" or "protection."

That question is: Shall we have as our next President an honest man with correct principles and good business habits, or shall we have a professional politician whose eccentric habits and sensational ideas altogether unfit him to manage the business affairs of a great country, and whose character if not stained is at least tainted, and whose actions in the past prove that his love for office is greater than his love for country, and that his boasted patriotism is but the silken glove of his itching palm?

It is strange that while he attempted to explain so many Republican misdeeds he said nothing about the Mulligan letters, the Railroad bonds, the Jay Hubbell robbery and the Star route frauds.

The managers of the Republican party are examining Mr. Blaine's correspondence for the purpose of getting matter that will be valuable in the campaign. The Mulligan letters ought to receive their careful attention.

The Rise of Men in the World.
The success of some men is strange and almost inexplicable. Is luck an important element in the affairs of mankind? It does certainly seem that in the affairs of some men every thing turns out right. They make no mistakes, no failures. Fortune seems to smile upon them at every place and at all times. If they make trades, they generally are the winners. If they desire an office, they rarely fail in obtaining it.

It may be argued on the other hand, that luck is the offspring of Pluck, that a lucky man is always a man of indomitable will power. The truth is that both energy and luck are important factors in the success of every man. But just how for luck enters into human affairs, it is difficult to determine.

It seems strange that GROVER CLEVELAND who not many years ago was a young, briefless lawyer without money, without the influence or favor of powerful friends, without any fine opportunities in life, should now be the nominee of the Democratic party for President of the United States. While he was living in Buffalo waiting for a case, there were thousands of young men throughout the country whose prospects for political success were flattering in the highest degree.

There were then sons of distinguished lawyers, sons of eminent politicians, sons of presidents who bid fair to reap the highest honors of the nation. Yet the man who, to-day, is so highly honored by his country is not one of those promising youths, not the son of a judge or of a senator or of a president, but the son of a poor Presbyterian preacher who dwelt in the obscure town of Holland Patent. Surely "there is a Destiny that shapes our ends."

BEN HILL and GROVER CLEVELAND were alike in their early youth in giving little promise of political success. In explanation of the phenomenal rise of HILL to greatness, RANDOLPH TUCKER employed a very beautiful figure which we may apply quote in our remarks upon the successful career of CLEVELAND. Mr. TUCKER said: "As the young eagle in its home nest on the mountain cliff feels in its undegled wing the power to soar toward the object on which it ever afterward looks with unblinded eye, so genius, with prophetic instincts, works out its conscious destiny."

The Jay Hubbell Steal to Be Enacted Again.
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It is a long lane that has no turn. The people have traveled the Republican lane for twenty years, it will turn in 1884.

The Plumed Knight has all run to ink.
Before Blaine could make the Republican platform stick he vomited six thousand words.

The Jonesboro Journal has been diminished in size. But we believe it contains almost as much original reading matter as it formerly did, for the Journal used the patent outside.

What the Platform of the Independents and Republicans Means Say of Blaine and Cleveland.

The Convention of the Independents and dissatisfied Republicans was held in New York, July 23. Four hundred and fifty-nine delegates signed the roll. Sixteen States were represented. California, 1; Ill., 2; Col., 1; Conn., 28; Del., 2; Ga., 1; La., 5; Mo., 2; Md., 2; Mich., 1; Mass., 84; N. J., 35; Penn., 19; R. I., 6; Vt., 1; Brooklyn, 56; and other points in the State outside of New York City, 49. The representatives of New York City numbered 168. Mr. Curtis called the convention to order. Charles R. Codman, of Mass., was made permanent chairman. We copy the following from the platform adopted by the convention.

AN ARRANGEMENT OF BLAINE. While the Republican party presents a nomination whom we cannot support, one who is a candidate of a Republican party, we have described; if they had foreseen the consequences of their action, they would have been wiser. We have described the long and undisturbed tenure of power by any party is sure to breed; if the success of the candidate is a promise of inflexible honesty of administration, purification of the government and elevation of the party, we have described; if every Republican voter would have gladly supported the candidate, we have described; if these are precisely the anticipations which the nomination forbids, it offers a candidate who is an unflinching leader shown by his own words and acknowledged a candidate who is a candidate of a Republican party, we have described; if they had foreseen the consequences of their action, they would have been wiser.

Notwithstanding the vote catchers in the Republican platform about civil service reform, notwithstanding Logan's bold statement that the civil service is more just, more efficient and purer in all of its features than ever before, and notwithstanding Mr. BLAINE's boastful talk about the honor of the civil service of the United States, preparations are making for the quadrilateral robbing of the office holders of the government. Every office holder under the Federal Government, from the lowest to the highest will in a few days receive a circular respectfully inviting him to send, as soon as he conveniently can, by draft on New York or postal money order to the order of B. F. Jones, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, 244, 5th Avenue, New York City, such sum as he may desire to contribute to the campaign fund of the grand old party. This is a more courteous circular than the one sent out by HUBBELL. It contains no threat; it demands no stated amount; yet every office holder understands that if he does not freely and promptly respond to this gentle request he cannot hope for promotion in office and in all probability will lose his position. How long will the Republican party while boasting of its moral ideas, of its honesty and of its purity, continue to wring from its office holders their earnings by indirect means and intimidations? Is James G. Blaine to be put in the Presidential chair by means of the use of the money forced from the Federal office holders? God forbid.

Blaine's letter of acceptance is regular water.
Blaine was quietly resting at home in the shade of an apple tree when he received the intelligence of his nomination. The messenger with the telegram announcing the election of the Democratic Convention found Governor Cleveland in his office, with his coat off, at work.

Blaine and Logan both struck a blow at Mormonism, yet they never said a word about the Star Route frauds. Blaine says: "Prejudices have yielded while a growing cordiality warms the Southern and the Northern heart alike." Logan says: "But the disagreeable fact is, that while theoretically we are in the enjoyment of the Government of the whole people, practically we are as far from it as we were in ante-bellum days of the Republic." Blaine and Logan ought to have compared letters before printing them.

Blaine has brayed long and loud he has, by mule!
The followers of Ben Butler are called tail twisters. Ben will make it known in a few days whose tail they